

Short Bio:

Sally Chengji Xing 邢承吉 (PhD, Columbia) is currently an associate professor of History at Nankai University, Faculty of History. Her research explores U.S. intellectual history and the history of science from a transnational perspective. Her current book manuscript, *Pacific Crossings*, examines how Chinese and American intellectuals collaborated to shape modern science and education in China, centering on the role of the China Foundation. Her scholarship appears in *Historical Studies* 历史研究, *World History Studies* 世界历史 (英文版), *Chinese Studies* 汉学研究, *Chinese Studies in History*, and *Dushu* 读书 among others. She is also the chief editor of an upcoming interview book with leading historians of US history, entitled *History in Practice* (upcoming with the Commercial Press). At Nankai University, she teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in transnational history, U.S. history, the history of science, and academic English.

**Current book project I am working on, and my next project in progress:**

I am now revising a book manuscript (in Chinese and English) that studies Chinese science in the republican period in the framework of transnational intellectual history. China's emergence as a global scientific power has deep historical roots, particularly in its entanglement with American intellectual history in the first half of the twentieth century. Understanding this intellectual lineage not only illuminates the development of Chinese science and education, but also reveals the broader transnational forces that have shaped both modern China and the contemporary world we know today. My book manuscript, *Pacific Crossings*, examines the formation and evolution of Sino-American intellectual networks that facilitated this transformation. At the center of this story is the China Foundation for the Promotion of Education and Culture (commonly known as the China Foundation / 中华教育文化基金董事会, or in short, 中基会), a unique organization founded in the early twentieth century with the second remission of the Boxer Indemnity Funds. The book explores how key American intellectuals—such as John Dewey and Paul Monroe—collaborated with Chinese scholars, many of whom were educated in the United States, to build a transpacific network that fostered the development of modern science in China.

This intellectual network enabled not only the translation and adaptation of American scientific and educational ideals but also complex negotiations and translations. While American liberal intellectuals aimed to promote democratic values through science education, their Chinese counterparts reinterpreted these ideas in light of China's national priorities and social conditions. These exchanges were far from one-sided: American views of science, education, and China itself were reshaped through sustained engagement with Chinese intellectuals. *Pacific Crossings* argues that the development of modern Chinese science was not simply the result of American influence, but the outcome of negotiated, reciprocal, and adaptive processes that were transnational and bilateral. By tracing these intellectual exchanges, the book situates China's rise of science within a broader history of global knowledge production and trans-Pacific conversations and discussions about democracy and science. While I am in the process of revising and submitting journal articles and finalizing book proposal for this project, I am also developing a second research project about how Chinese intellectuals in the twentieth century imagined American republicanism, democracy and egalitarianism for its own sake of nation-building and modernization purpose.